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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Chinari TANAKA

Group Art Unit: 2613

Appl No : 09/986,965

Examiner: Not Assigned Yet

Filed : November 13, 2001

For : IMAGE SEARCH DEVICE

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Technology Center 2600

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §1.97-1.98,

Applicant hereby calls the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

Japanese Laid Open Patent Publication No. HEI 8-332169, which was published on December 17, 1996, along with English language counterpart U.S. Patent No. 5,836,869 to KUDO et al., which issued on November 17, 1998; and

Japanese Laid Open Patent Publication No. HEI 10-174673, which was published on June 30, 1998, along with a full English language translation of the same.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above materials and cite the patent documents and enclosed translation. Copies of the above-noted documents are attached and have been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-

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P21345.A02

1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to Applicant with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Applicant also brings to the Examiner's attention the following copending and commonly assigned patent application:

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/986,966 to KANAI, entitled "Image Search Device", which was filed on November 13, 2001.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(iii), a copy of the above-mentioned application is attached hereto. However, the Examiner is also requested to review the file wrapper of this U.S. patent application at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and any references of record, if any, cited therein.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Chinari TANAKA

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February 13, 2002
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